MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*) : Does the principle now followed in the Press leave any room for discretion or partiality ?

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*) : I do not think it gives room.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): With regard to parts (*k*) and (*l*), the answer is: " Sufficient work is given to these piece-workers. " May I know why they memorialised Government if sufficient work is given ?

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*) : I do not know why?

MR. K P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*) : Is the Government in possession of the memorials submitted by these piece-workers ?

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*) : I want to know whether Government have considered these memorials.

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*) : These memorials are pending (with the recommendations of the Superintendent) the consideration of Government.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*) : How long were they pending?

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*) : It will be a month or so.

Grievances of the Piece-Work Compositors in the Government Press.

73. MR. R. PADMANABHAN (*Nominated*): (*a*) Are the Government aware of the serious discontent that prevails among the piece-work compositors of the Government Press, due to the hardship they are experiencing for the past several years ?

(*b*) Are they aware of the fact that there are two kinds of employees among the piece-workers doing similar work ?

(*c*) Have the Government received a large number of complaints and memorials, during the past several years, and, if so, what action have they taken on them ?

(*d*) Is it a fact that the permanent piece-work compositors recruited after 1090 waited upon the late Dewan and represented their grievances through their Vakil and that the Dewan, after hearing their Vakil, passed favourable orders on the several points raised by him ?

(*e*) Is it a fact that the Superintendent, Government Press, has, by giving the Government order an incorrect interpretation, deprived these employees of their legitimate income ?

(*f*) Is it a fact that they have again memorialised the Government for a clear exposition of the relevant portion of the Government order, regarding the concessions granted to them, and, if so, whether the Government have permitted their Vakil to wait on the Dewan once more to press their claims ?

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(*g*) Are the Government aware that the computing work done in the Press, even after the passing of the Government order, is not in accordance with the rules laid down in the Government order which clearly says that the vouchers should be valued by the computors and the account books initialled by the compositors?

(*h*) Are the Government aware of the fact that the piece-work compositors of the Government Press feel serious hardships and incur heavy loss owing to the absence of any definite principle or rule by which hour-account is charged on jobs?

(*i*) In view of the existence of the disparity between the two sets of compositors recruited before and after 1090 and in view of the similar work done by both, do the Government think it right to grant the minimum monthly allowance to one set only?

(*j*) Is it a fact that the Press Committee have said that there is not sufficient work to keep all the piece-work employees of the Press fully engaged throughout the year, and, if so, what steps have the Government taken to dispense with the temporary staff?

(*k*) In view of the fact that the Government have clearly stated in the Government order that the piece-work employees recruited before 1090 should be supplied with enough matter regularly, do they not think that the interests of those recruited after 1090 should also be similarly safeguarded?

(*l*) In the absence of enough work for all the piece-work employees of the Press uniformly throughout the year, have the Government proposed any remedy to compensate for the time wasted in the Press for no fault of theirs?

(*m*) Will the Government be pleased to appoint the Work Committee, contemplated in the Government order, in the near future?

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) to (*m*) The member is referred to the answers to question No. 72.

Grievances of the Piece-Workers in the Government Press.

74. **MR. A. K. PILLAI** (*Karunagapalli*): (1) Will the Government be pleased to state if they have received memorials from the piece-work compositors of the Government Press complaining of the distinction drawn between those recruited before 1090 and those recruited after that date? What action have the Government taken on them?

(2) Are the Government aware that these two classes of employees doing the same kind of work are receiving widely different treatment in regard to the conditions of their pay and leave?

(3) Are the Government aware of the serious hardship the piece-workers of the Government Press feel owing to the absence of any definite principle or system by which hour-account is charged on jobs?

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): (1) The member is referred to the answer to question No. 72 (*c*).

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